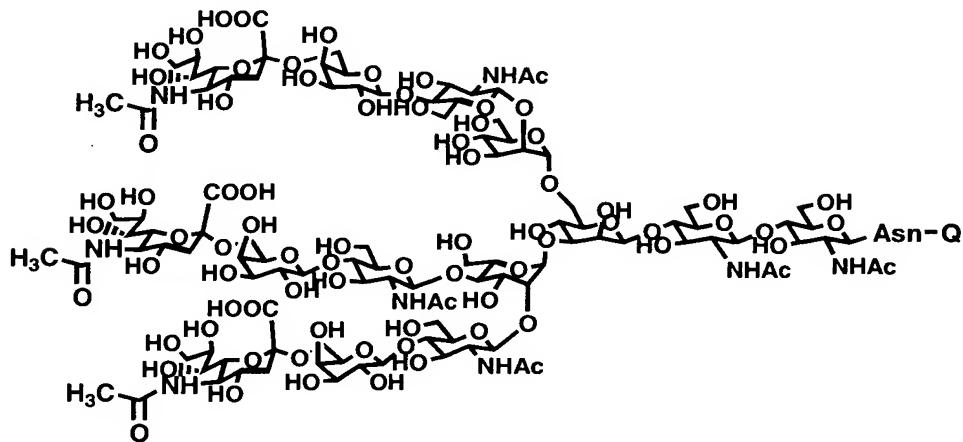


CLAIMS

1. A 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative of the formula (1) wherein the nitrogen of amino group of asparagine is modified with a lipophilic protective group, biotin group or FITC group

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wherein Q is a lipophilic protective group, biotin group or FITC group.

2. A 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative according to claim 1 which contains at least one fucose in N-acetylglucosamine on the nonreducing terminal side of the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide of the derivative.

3. A 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the lipophilic protective group is an Fmoc group.

4. A 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide obtained by removing the lipophilic protective group, biotin group or FITC group from the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative of claim 1 or 2.

5. A 3-branched oligosaccharide obtained by removing the asparagine moiety from the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide of claim 4.

6. A process for preparing a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative having a lipophilic protective group introduced thereto, the process being characterized in that the process includes:

- 5 (a) the step of introducing a lipophilic protective group into one or at least two 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharides as contained in a mixture thereof to obtain a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative mixture, and
- 10 (b) the step of subjecting to chromatography the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative mixture or a mixture obtained by hydrolyzing the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative or derivatives contained in the 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative mixture to separate the derivative or derivatives.

7. A process for preparing a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative modified with a biotin group characterized by biotinating a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide.

8. A process for preparing a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide derivative modified with an FITC group characterized by bonding FITC to a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide.

9. A process for preparing a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide characterized by removing a lipophilic protective group, biotin group or FITC group from a 3-branched asparagine-

linked oligosaccharide derivative.

10. A process for preparing a 3-branched oligosaccharide characterized by removing asparagine moiety from a 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide.

11. A microplate having immobilized thereto a biotinylated 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide of claim 1 or 2.

12. An affinity column having immobilized thereto a biotinylated 3-branched asparagine-linked oligosaccharide of claim 1 or 2.